SPAIN NEAR A CRISIS

The Danger of War with the United States.

REVOLUTION, TOO, IM MINENT

Troubles at Home and Abroad Caused by the Struggle in Cuba.

Matred of the United States Foutered Among the Spanish People by the Beller That This country Is Secretly Aiding the Patriots in Cuba-Sagasta's Attempt to Bribe the Patriot Leaders-Cen. Woodford's Difficult Position in Madrid-Corruption of Spanish Politics-Little Hope for Spain from the Caritate of the Republicans-The Country Tired of the Cuban Struggle-The Situation Expected by the Spanish Government to Develop On-Way or the Other Very Seen After March 1.

Manure, Jan. 20.-If the Spanish people knew more about Cuba and the Cubans and about America and the Americans, and if the Ameri can people knew more about the Spanish people then the dangerous crisis which seems imminen between Spain and the United States might be avoided and the fate of the unhappy island would cease to be a reproach to civilization. It is hopeless, I am afraid, to expect anything short of the stern logic of events to bring home to public mind of Spain such a knowledge of the transatlantic situation as will serve to avert further loss and disaster to the Spanish cause. On the other hand, it is possible-barely ssible—that a little plain speaking about th emergency which confronts the Spanish nation may enable the United States to perform its duty to humanity in Cuba without bringing unsary humiliation and disaster upon Spain But this plain speaking will defeat its own ob ject to some extent in Spain itself. It will give serious offence to the Spaniards who streads consider themselves grossly maligned by the American press. Unwelcome truths are resented even more bitterly by the Spanish temperament than slanders when they come from an n critic. This, however, will not justify the withholding from the American public of such facts as are patent to any impartial investigator in Spain to-day.

It should be said at the outset, without any disguise or equivocation, that the danger of war between Spain and the United States is real and not far distant. It matters not that the present Government of Spain is carnestly striving to avoid such a hopeless culmination of Spain's troubles; it matters not that all public men of knowledge and common country know that war with the United means simply a crowning disaster to the fortunes of Spain. These men will situation develops in the manner which is most naturally to be expected. It may be that war ought not longer to be avoided. It that it is the stern, legitimate outcome of a long series of national sins and errors of which Spain has been guilty. It may be that Spain deserves to be disciplined sharply by nger, more enlightened nation. That is a question for casuists and public moralists, and t is not the purpose of this letter to discuss it.

It is the avowed purpose of the Washington Government to do its duty to the cause of humanity and liberty in suffering Cuba, if possible, without drawing the sword or inciting Spain to draw hers. The chance of the United tates declaring war against Spain is very re mote. The situation is surely serious enough therefore, to make it important that the American people should understand clearly the reasons for this attitude of a proud, erring, helpless nation. In pointing out some of these reasons I make no appeal for sympathy with the Spanish people in their dilemma. Their attitude does not encour age that sentiment. I do not even ask the reader to consider the situation from the Span ish standpoint. The Spanish pleas and purposes cannot be justified from any standpoint of na tional morality. But I do ask that for the purpose of this inquiry tolerant Americans will look upon Spain very much as a physician looks upon a patient whose folly has brought him low If it is possible for a nation to fall ill, then Spain is in that grievous predicament to-day. She is entitled to be treated with infinite patience and to be spared unnecessary pain, even although the treatment insisted upon may be drastic and she reviles her physician who administers it.

It is easy to say in general terms that Spain is paying the penalties of her period of conquest ver-prosperity, and national indulgence in illacquired wealth. It is the old story of Greece and Rome modernized. But in saying this, no adequate impression is conveyed of the stagnand vice which for more than two centuries have made Spain the slowest laggard in Europe in the march of civilization. It is necessary to get a glimpse at least of Spanish life in r to appreciate the enervation, the paralysis, which has reduced a once great people to a na tion which retains only an exaggerated pride of the qualities which make greatness possible, How to live without work seems to be the problem which appeals most strongly to the Spanish ingenuity and tastes. The thing is forced upon the attention the moment one enters Spain.

Take, for instance, the feature of Madrid life which most forcibly impresses a visitor. It seems as if half the inhabitants of the city made their living by selling lottery tickets to the other half. In Barcelona it is even worse, and in every town in Spain it is the same. Gambling, or how to get rich by a fluke, is the national passion, and those who know the Spanish people best say that it is ineradicable. Instead of begging, the street mendicant thrusts a sheaf of lottery tickets in your face. His number is legion. He cks the sidewalk in important thoroughfares. and his presence and importunity give an appearance of bustle and life to the streets which suggests that trade is good and the people busy. Every block, also, has its special shop for the same pernicious trade in lottery tickets, though why these should be necessary when it is impos sible to get past the door of one of them without forcing one's way through a crowd of individual dealers of both sexes it is difficult to understand. This lottery craze in Spain constantly reminds one of the old story of the two families of Brown and Jones each of which subsisted by taking in the other's washing. The Browns and the Joneses had the advantage over the people of Spain, however, for there was no third party to charge them ; big commission on the business. In Spain the Government, like the bank at Monte Carlo reaps the benefit of the people's indulgence of their gambling instincts. The bank's tax upon the gambler at Monaco is about 3 per cent., but Spain's share in the lottery investments of the people is about 40 per cent.

As soon as a foreigner in Madrid attempts to enter into business intercourse with officials. professional men, or even managers of imporant commercial and financial houses, he encounters another striking contrast with the habits of other capitals. If he seeks audience with any man of important affairs in the morn ing or midday, he will seek in vain. Two o'clock in the afternoon is the earliest that the pead o a Government department or a Cabinet Minister, for instance, can be found at his post. This rvation applies to those officials who really have to work. Those who do not, and they outnumber the others, consider that they have done their duty by the country they profess to rve by appearing promptly on pay day only and appending their personal autographs to the payroll. This, moreover, is only one of the corrupt practices which love of case and idleness

It is not necessary to enter into any details of settle politics of Spain in order to ex-

plain the corruption the oppression, the low standard of political morals, which pravail and have made a long-suffering people ripe for rebellion. With a few honorable exceptions the acquisition of political power in Spain means nothing more or less than gaining an opportunity for public plunder. It is a hard saying, and true of some other countries besides Spain, but nowhere else in Europe is this conception of politics and its rights and privileges so widespread. It should be conceded, perhaps, that the Liberal party is cleaner than the Conservative party; but this means merely that Liberal corruption is relatively less blac than Conservative corruption. Both oppress the people, both extort the last possible peseta from the struggling peasant class, both shift the legitimate burdens of the influential and wello-do citizens upon the shoulders of the helpless masses. The conscription, for instance, which is supposed to fall impartially upon rich and poor alike, as it does in France and Germany, never seizes any but the artisan or peasant in Spain. A small fee-about \$60 is now the current figure secures to any well-to-do young man exemption from the frightful hardships

and privations of barrack life in Spain. It will readily be believed under these circumtances that party loyalty in Spain, aside from those who directly profit by connection with the Conservative or Liberal organization, is entirely lacking. It makes little difference to the masse which side is in power, and they are naturally indifferent to the so-called privileges of suffrage A national election is only a farce. The election machinery of the country returns such candidates as the potentates in Madrid desire to have sturned. The prevailing idea in Spain itself is that this is done by manipulation of returns—by bare-faced fraud, in fact, But fraud hardly seems necessary for the accomplishment of this result. Indifference, as between the candidates of the two parties, has for years characterized the long-suffering electors in most sections of Spain. They usually vote according to the de ires of the election officers.

What most of all surprises an American who nvestigates the internal politics of Spain is the patience of the people under such inflictions. The render is not that a revolution is imminent now, but that it did not come years ago. It is serious reproach to the Spaniards that they have not revolted. A more enlightened, more iberty-loving people would have overthrown their oppressors, by force if necessary, long ago It must be confessed that although sedition nov seems to be rife in the country the prospects of a change which will be of genuine benefit to the masses are small indeed. The mere substitution of a Don Carlos for the present dynasty would be anything but a popular boon. Those who know the character of the young pretender find it difficult to hold him in anything but con tempt, "Brainless young coxcomb" is not an unfair characterization of him. On the other hand, the Queen Regent is a good woman and a wise one. Her power, unfortunately, is far too limited. Spain will never know probably how reat is the nation's debt to her for her discre tion, her sacrifices and her wise use of great pportunities which have come to her during the difficult emergencies of the past few nonths. It is due to her, and to her alone that Spain and the United States were not at war in November last. More than that I can not say, except to add that if the authority to weep away the abuses and corruption which have brought disaster to Spain at home and in her colonies were given to this woman, her sut jects would speedily be rescued from their pres ent despair. But she is virtually powerless She can occasionally transfer the Government from one party to the other, as she did under dramatic and most critical circumstances last September, but that is all she can do.

It must be admitted that the choice of reme dies before the Spanish people is sadly limited. The two revolutionary movements are the Carlist and the so-called Republican. The Carlist, as I have already intimated, is composed merely of another crowd of hungry, ambitious men, anxious to establish another and even more unscrupulous autocracy, which shall pick the bones of the emaciated body politic The "Republican" party is a gross misnomer. The name is but a cuphonism for social-ism, including anarchy. Many Spanlards themselves deceived by it. The people are neither Socialists nor Anarchists, but also true that they are the majority of them Republicans in their sentiments. Impersonal democracy does not appeal to the average Spaniard oppressed although he is by monarchical institutions. It is a hard thing to say—the most derogatory per-haps that could be said—but the fact is that Spain is not fit to-day for a regulilcan form of government. The masses are not sufficiently intelligent; they are too indifferent to public affairs, too inert, too lazy for self-government. And yet, paradoxical as it may be, they are ready to declare war to-morrow against the United States and to perish to the last man hopeless struggle to resent interference with Spanish sovereignty in Cuba

I come now to the situation of the moment in Spain. The country is tired, more than tired, of the Cuban struggle. One thing, and one thing only, makes the people consent to its still being pursued. That is the belief, carefully fostered by civil and military authorities alike, that it is solely due to the unwarranted support given to the revolutionary forces in Cuba by the people of the United States that the rebellion was not ubdued long ago. It is neither surprising nor altogether reprehensible, under the circum stances, that the most popular cry, the unani mous sentiment in Spain, is expressed in the

The world does not know yet what sacrifices Spain has made during the bast three years to national pride and in expiation of the sins of cruel and rapacious representatives of Spanish government in the colonies. The heaviest part of the burden has fallen upon the already impoverished masses. Not only the wealth but the life blood of Spain has been severely drained, and this, too, has been drawn almost exclu sively from the peasantry. The Government has been wise, from one point of view, in drawing its troops for Cuban service almost exclusively from the country districts of Spain. Very few were sent whose homes are in Madrid, Barcelona or the other large towns. The wisdom of this selection has become apparent during the past year. Hundreds of boys and young men who went out sturdy, robust specimens of early manhood have come back in the hospital ships pitiful, hopeless wrecks of humanity whom their friends and families are often unable to recognize when they reappear at their hor Thousands more have perished miserably in Cuban fever hospitals, not to mention Cubar

battlefields. It is the invalided returned soldier who is the chief propaganda agent of hatred of the United States in Spain. It could not well be otherwise, and he is not in any sense blameworthy. He has been told by his officers all the time he has been in Cuba that it is American aid to the insurgents and nothing else which has kept the rebellion alive. He has had no reason for disbelieving the stories of his superiors and comrades. Campaigning in Cuba has been a hellish experience for him, and the Yankees are responsible for his sufferings and for those of his comrades who are dead or left behind. His ruined constitution is proof of the horrors he has en dured. He tells his story. He is honest and sincero. The people look upon his wasted frame. and they believe him. Why should they do otherwise! And believing him, they share to

the full his hatred of the accuraci Yankees. Let me say frankly that, instead of resenting it. I have come to respect the deceived and ignorant masses in Spain for the hatred they bear to the American people. It is a credit to their natural impulses and genuineness of heart. Americans will do well to reserve their resentment for those Spanish authorities who have misled their countrymen in this as in other im portant matters which deeply concern them.

Perhaps it is worth while to quote an example of the intensity of feeling and prejudice against the United States among those for whom the general excuse of ignorance cannot be urged. It is difficult for an American to discover in President McKinley's message material which should inflame the mind and passions of an individual whose judgment is governed by a

modicum of common sense. And yet Emilio Castelar, the popular author and Republican leader, is moved thereby to write a bitter and savage article to El Percenir of Seville, is which he uses this extraordinary language:

"The message does not, as might confidently be expected, qualify the recognition of belliger ency as an irrational and iniquitous proceeding as a violation of the right of nations, as imposs ble because the rebels lack all that constitute a State capable of receiving recognition among other organized States-no, it treat the matter with supreme cynicism, basing itself upon the false pretext that the recognition of belligerency would ultimately benefit Spain and quell the disturbances.

"If reasonings such as these are admitted and that unconditionally and unreservedly, we are bound to believe that the United States Gov ernment is not a friendly and allied power; not a Government that is under the obligation to give us its moral assistance in our disastrous war, and is therefore morally obliged to stop the firebrands that periodically leave its shores to join the insurgent forces. No. we see in the United States a hostile power. determined to all manner of usurpation, inter fering where it has obviously no call and no right to interfere, under the pretext that the struggle is of such long duration, as if long struggles are unknown in America! The Unite States, through their treason and their perfide have made themselves utterly unworthy of our friendship; they deserve to be denounced before the entire human community as the principal authors of our misfortunes. Finally, in order not to leave any doubt about his fell purpose the President closes his message with his dyna mite bomb-the threat of active intervention, without scruples, without restriction. . . .

"Intervention, indeed! What can interven tion in our affairs be based on but on crime, like the crime by which Poland suffered under the heel of a number of tyrannical despots, to the eternal shame of all generations and which remains a perpetual stain on civilization. Th sentiment which is known by the Turks [the Russians, the author evidently means] as Pan Slavism is called in America Pan-Americanism. which aims at the supremacy of the Saxon race from the Potomac to Patagonia. But this same Saxon race does not understand the difference of such dreams of conquest as conceived by a republic and by an empire. An empire strengthens itself by war as a tiger and a lion are strengthened by killing their prey; but a republic like that of the United States which vas created to prosper through commerce and industry, cannot system tically go to war with out deliberately committing a dishonorable sui-

cide at the foot of the idol of imperialism "In order to intervene in Cuba, the United States must be prepared to arm themselves to the teeth. They must have a powerful fleet in the waters erstwhile solely traversed in the interests of trade; they must increase their budget in conformity with other great fighting nations; they must convert their legions of industrious tillers of the soil into warlike hordes bent upon destruction, like the damned souls on the day of judgment; they must be prepared to neur the enmity of all Spanish America, as their action would signify a constant danger to liberty and independence; they must be pre pared to incur the enmity of all civilized humanity, which would raise its voice in unaninous protest. Nay, more. They would lose their democracy, they would lose their republic. They would convert the Capitol, bulwark of liberty, into a stronghold of base servitude, to he everlasting dishonor of civilization.

"No, the American nation would do better to abstain from interference, prevent fllibustering expeditions leaving its shores, denying once and or all the prospect of their aid to the insurgent eaders, pointing out to them that they cannot end them any assistance without dishoner to their name and danger to their country, thus eaving us to finish the war with our own means. and we shall yet crown it with the peace obtained through our own sacred rights."

This sort of rnetoric does not appeal to Anglo-Saxon sympathies or reason, but the Spanish nind is influenced by it. It serves to show, too, that the antagonism to the United States in Spain is not confined to Liberals and Conservatives. It is one of the principal articles of the Carlist creed. Young Don Carlos seeks support among the masses by breathing threatenings and slaughter against Americans whom he proposes to annihilate promptly by landing an army in Florida and marching victoriously to New York as soon as the people put him upon the Spanish throne. And the Republicans, also, as Senor Castelar's article shows, are one with their fellow citizens in decrying the Yankees.

There is one fundamental fact or weakness in Spanish character which makes it impossible for Spain to understand the American attitude toward the Cuban situation. I shall arouse fresh resentment by calling attention to it, but It is necessary that the United States Government and people should take full cognizance of it. It is the inherent cruelty of the Spantemperament. Humanity, as the rest of the civilized world understands it, seem to be left out in a large measure of the Spanish make-up. Perhaps this is not surprising n the descendants of the Inquisition, who in many respects are the same morally and intelectually as the Spaniards of the sixteenth century. The stories of tortures in Spanish prisons a year ago were not altogether apocryphal, and the unsportsmanlike horrors of the bull ring would be repulsive to a people if they did not take pleasure in the mere shedding of blood or, to say the least, were not callous toward suffering.

It is literally true, therefore, that Spain as a nation is unable to understand or recognize any duty which the common laws of humanity im-pose upon the United States with regard to Cuba. The Spaniards honestly believe that Americans are rank hypocrites when they profess to be prompted by impulses of humanity to interfere on behalf of the Cubans, and they are convinced that the United States is seeking thus to cloak the most selfish and illegitimate motives. Let me suggest an extreme example of the Spanish feeling, or lack of feeling, in this respect. suppose that an attack of frenzy or superstition such as sometimes seizes communities and even nations, should lead Spain's neighbors, the Portuguese, to persecute and torture a certain class among them. Suppose that abominable crucities and murders were publicly committed. Does any one imagine that the dictates of humanity would prompt Spain to interfere, no matte. to what extreme of horror and slaughter the outrages might go ! There would probably be many Spanish spectators at such an inquisition, but Spanish interference, no-not unless some other object was to be gained besides mere protection of innocent victims.

Gen. Weyler has few friends, and can command but little support among the Spanish masses, but the reason for this is not to be found in the frightful cruelties of his régime in uba. The real reason is that he is known to be utterly unscrupulous and avaricious. It is notorious that he used the opportunities which came to him during his administration in Cube during the previous rebellion to accumulate a fortune. It is now the common talk of Madrid and nowhere contradicted that by corrupt means he has enriched himself during the past wo years in Havana to the extent of fully \$3,000,000. It is on this account, and also because he is credited with personal cowardice that the people of Spain have no love for him.

The task which the Sagasta Ministry has un lertaken is almost a hopeless one. Another six weeks probably will determine whether it will succeed or fail. When the present Cabinet took office last autumn war with the United States cemed all but inevitable. Had the Conservaives remained in office, it is certain that hostil ties would have been begun before the 1st of December. Schor Sagasta is unquestionably loing his utmost to avert that calamity, and yet the means which he is using to this end are suc that I have no right to keep slient with regard to them, even although the exposure may de

It is notorious here in Madrid that the Spanish dovernment hopes to accomplish by bribery of insurgent leaders what it has failed to gain by and oppression. It has succeeded in the Philippines. The rebellion there was squeiched by buying off the most powerful chiefs of the rebel bands. And yet the other day Madrid mlebrated with filuminations and bedecking of

her house fronts a triumph of the Spanish arms, which was nothing more nor less than a low bargain with a few traitors. It is hoped and expected that the same policy will succeed in Cuba. Even the name of the principal Government agent in the matter is bruited about in political circles here, and it is believed that the first fruits of his nefarious work will be reported over the cable before many days.

There may be two opinions, perhaps, as to whether the Sagasta Government is justified in resorting to such measures. Certainly their dilemma and the dilemma of Spain is perate one. The Government of the United States is bringing strong and constant pressure to bear. It is simply amazing, in view of the unanimous Spanish feeling on the subject, how much Gen. Woodford has been able to accomplish during the past four months in the direc tion of enforcing President McKinley's demand for peace. Undoubtedly the Sagasta Ministry has gone as far as public sentiment would tolerate it in yielding to that demand. Even now, if the impression should get abroad in Spain that the Government was acting in any sense under American compulsion or dictation, it would be come impossible to continue the present policy. An immediate crisis would follow, and such crisis would mean one of two things-a civil revolution or a war with the United States. It

might, indeed, mean both. It need hardly be said that the position of the American Minister during this critical period in Madrid is a difficult and a dangerous This is not the time to characterize the services which Gen. Woodford is rendering. It would defeat the main object of those services to discuss them at this juncture. It is sufficient to Bay that he is laboring earnestly, tactfully, and patriotically for peace in Cuba and the presen vation of the honor and self-respect of Spain, as well as for the rights and duties of the Ameri can Government.

I can say nothing which will throw any light upon the probable fate of the autonomy scheme in Cuba. Madrid is not the place in which to seek for information or valuable opinions upon that point. Considering the nature of the policy now being followed, I do not see how the issue can be long delayed. If money will buy peace, it will buy it at once; if not, the plan is a failure, and there can be no reason why the Washington Government should longer delay its course of action resolved upon in that con tingency. The Spanish Government itself expects the situation to develop definitely one way or the other very soon after the first of March.

LIFE IN BELEM.

Curious Customs That Provail in the Big Mex tean Prison.

Among the various uses to which Mexico ha put some of her old monasteries and convents is that of serving for the incarceration of violators of the law. The Convento de Belen at Mexico city has become, in common parlance Belem, the city jail and prison, accused and convicted persons, male, female and minors alike being confined there in different compartments. The building was put up by the Span ish Governor in 1686, as an inscription at the head of the main stairway tells. A casual visit paid it by a reporter of the Mexican Herald reveals a condition of prison management is Mexico worthy of passing attention in the days of prison reform associations and internationa prison congresses.

The Herald said that Belem had been com monly spoken of as a second Black Hole of Cal But the reporter found that the prison was kept in a state of comparative cleanliness Not so, however, the prisoners. Their condition he described as one of disgusting flithiness Although there was a hydrant in every cell and general bathing facilities in each compartment the reporter found only one inmate either a bath or with any indication of having bathed within a year. It was explained to him by the prison authorities that formerly the regulations required prisoners to bathe daily, but that this ferers managed to have it declared a form of cruel and unusual punishment and so to have the rule abrogated. There are in the prison now 3,451 prisoners, of whom 2,933 are men and 80 are minors.

A curious feature found by the reporter was the Spanish regard for the arts, even within prison walls. He found in the south wing the prison walls. He found in the south wing the writers of libel, "and the cells reserved for musicians, artists and others of the fine arts." It would seem to be a charitable, as well as an inclusive, provision, that "and others" (besides artists) of the fine arts. The musicians are permitted, apparently, to take their instruments to jail with them, much as mechanics take into the prison workshop their own tools of trade. "The walls of the musicians' cells are decorated with different musical instruments, and the reporter was told that almost every evening there was a concert in one of the patios."

Men sometimes do in Mexico what in this colder clime they content themselves with wishing done, for the reporter came upon one

Men sometimes do in Mexico what in this colder clime they content themselves with wishing done, for the reporter came upon one Adams, under sentence of twenty years "for killing a waiter at the Club de la Opera, because he did not bring his dinner quick enough." Adams has the freedom of his gailey. There are in each gailey three trusties who go about with clubs and preserve order, using the club "only when moral suasion will not do aswell." There were stoics among the fifty-seven men condemned to death. One of these, under zentence for assassinating a man, expressed his serene confidence as to his future, but, "if worst came to worst"—a shrug of the shoulders and palms up. This man and some others under death sentence had the run of the commandant's offices, notwithstanding there were on the walls, serving as decorations, confiscated weapons of prisoners. Oddiv enough, as it would seem in this country, though it wouldn't have been strange in the Italy of Machiavelli, there wasn't a gan among these. The nearest to a gun and the rest were poinards, semiliars, stillettes, butcher knives, tale knives, penknives, shoemakers' knives.

The dinner hour was marked by a curlous spectacle. The street outside the prison was filled with the "wives, children, dogs and other nembers of the prisoners' households." These brought baskets of edibles to the prisoners, some of whom were permitted to speak to their relatives through a grating. To the convicts not permitted to come to the grating, their relatives were allowed to send in notes accompanying the dinner baskets. This privilege had given rise to a peculiar way of making a few pennies among persons able to write—"itinerant scribes who for a cent or two wrote messages to the prisoners." One woman bade the scribe to put her message in red ink. She would have none of the "purple stuff." "Tell him, said she, "that I send him two little tomaler and tell him that ta perrita died yesterduy."

little tomaler and tell him that la perrita died yesterday."
Says the reporter: "And the scribe, leaning under the shade of his umbrella, sitting on a rock, with his bottle of red ink on another rock beside him, worked away assiduously, with an etymology all his own, beginning paragraphs with lower case letters and putting in caps in the most unexpected places, so that it would take an Ignatius Donnelly cryptogram to decipher the meaning of his hieroglyphics."

Return to Bellevue Hospital of Teddy, Its Lon Absent Pet Terrier.

The return of Teddy, the mongrel Skye terries to Bellevue Hospital has started story telling about him. Teddy was the most promising pup of old Rage, who was for several years a hospital favorite, but departed this life when an ambulance ran over her one day. Rags left a large litter of pups. Believue could not support so many dogs, so one was selected to take Hags's place and the rest were done away with.

As Teddy grew in years and wisdom he made many friends and a few enemies. One of the latter was a St. Bernard puppy that lived near by. Like all of his race, the St. Bernard consisted principally of legs and an appetite during the first few months of his existence. The terrier was quick and wiry, and when the clums; puppy was about to eat his dinner Teddy

puppy was about to eat his dinner Teddy usually happened to be in the vicinity. There would be a quick rush, a langled mass of yellow and gray hair rolling over, and a series of yellow, and the St. Bernard would pick himself up with a dazed air while Teddy and the dinner were receding in the distance. This sport ended when the puppy grew so large that Teddy had to keep at a proper distance.

Once the little terrier fell into the clutches of the dog catcher, but one of the doctors bought his release for \$2.50, and afterward presented as sliver collar to him. Then Teddy came and went as he pleased, until one day about a year ago, as he was crossing First avenue, some one picked him up and took him away in a wagon. After a short time a letter came from Youkors offering to return the dog for a reward. From that time nothing was heard of Teddy until he bounded into the little gate house on East Twenty-sixth street on Monday morning. Opinions are divided in the hospital as to whether he made his way back from Yonkers on foot or established himself in the good graces of the railroad men and came down on a local. As Teddy is an unusually sagacious dog the majority favor the latter conclusion.

ASIATIC CHEAP LABOR.

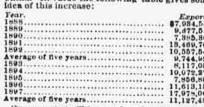
JAPAN DISCOVERING THAT IT IS A SOURCE OF WEAKNESS. Effects of Overworking and Underfooding Hands in Cotton Mills and Permitting the Employ-ment of Young Children—Japan at La-t Awakening to the Need of Factory Laws.

Considerable interest is felt just now in relation to Asiatic labor and the part it is likely to play in the industrial movements of the United States and European countries. Mr. Dingley recently told us, in speaking of the New England cotton troubles, that Asiatic labor, and the migration of part of the industry from New England to the Southern States, were elements o the equation which cannot be left out. Curiously enough, the present situation in the Pacific is likely to bring this question of Asiatio labor and our trade relations with the Orient right to the front. Only last week a petition was laid before the Chamber of Commerce of New York, which is designed to secure Government safeguards for the mercantile interests and treaty privileges of our citizens in the Far East. Referring to a recent article by the writer on the effect of industrial changes in the Far East on the cotton industry in England and the United States, a free trade journal says:

"A writer in the Philadelphia Inquirer, who affects great indignation at the unpatriotic doings and sayings of the free traders in this country, quotes this paragraph from Dingley, and proceeds to show that the pauper labor of Asia s telling against New England as well as against old England; but how to meet this kind of competition he does not exactly see. If China and Japan were sending their cotton goods to this country we could take care of that. In fact, we have done so already in the Dingley tariff, but we have no power to force the Japanese and Chinese to buy our cottons in preference to their own. All that we can possibly do is to insist with what grace we may, that their ports shall be kept open and the treaty rights heretofore granted to us shall be observed, so that those who want to buy our goods on the other side of the Pacific shall have the opportunity to do so."

This journal sees in England a champion hose interests are identical with ours in the Pacific, and hopes we shall recognize this fact. While this is a factor not to be overlooked. there is no necessity for us to tag onto John Bull's coat tails in order to secure our rights in the Pacific. Surely our own representatives in this part of the world are capable of taking care of American interests. We may unite with England and make a common cause, but to ask England to champion our cause because we are incapable of doing it ourselves is a humiliating and unpatriotic position for us to take.

Meantime we have very important trade inerests in the far East that must not be neglected. In the past year our trade with Japan has almost doubled, while there has been a decided increase in what I regard as far more im-portant than the Japanese trade, the trade with China. In value the following table gives some idea of this increase:



11,013,184

Average of five years. 17,978,005

Average of five years. 11,127,482

Our exports to China are in value greater than those to Japan, but the possibilities of Chinase trade are far more promising than those of Japan trade. The value of the trade with China, however, is not a fair gauge of its increase, because the price of commodities has declined during the years covered by the table. The chief articles of export to China have been cotton cloths and refined mineral oils. Going back to 1891 and comparing that year with 1897, I find that there were sold to China in that year 80,934,246 yards of colored and uncolored cotton fabrics, the value of \$5,334,860, or an average value of about 6.6 cents a yard. Last year China bought from us 140,121,035 yards of the same fabrics valued at \$7,438,193, or an average of 5.3 cents a yard. Last year China bought from us 140,121,035 yards of the same fabrics valued at \$7,438,193, or an average of 5.3 cents a yard. Thus, while the increase in value of this trade was barely 40 per cent. over 1891, the increase in volume was fully 73 per cent. So with mineral oil; while the exports for 1891 were 27,181,178 gallons, valued at \$2,591,660, or an average of 9½ cents a gallon, the exports for 1897 were 42,516,120 gallons, valued at \$3,332,935, or barely 8 cents a gallon. Here, then, we find the increased value of the trade was only 29 per cent, while its increase in volume equalled 57 per cent. The same is true in the imports to this country from China. The quantity of tea has greatly increased, but the price has declined. In spite of this our imports averaged more in the last five years than in the two preceding quinquennial periods, and have now reached \$21,128,858.

The introduction of civilized methods and improvements in this part of the world will enable the United States to share in a constantly increasing trade, and, as these Oriental nations become greater consumers, by reason of the limproved conditions of their labor, they will naturally become better customers.

naturally become better customers. I have just read a translation of a most important article by Mr. Tetsuya Hayakawa, who, when I was in Japan, was secretary to the Minister of Agriculture, on the necessity of enacting laws for the protection and benefit of laborers. In an article which I wrote in 1896 for the Japanese monthly, the Far East, the necessity of such laws was thus sect forth:

"Japan must have good factory laws at once; it is folly to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs. That is what the employment of small children and growing girls for twelve or four-teen hours a day in factories will do. There is neither sense, humanity, nor economy in such a course. It will destroy the stamina of the people. Iong hours and no regular cessation of work on the seventh day are bad anyhow. They are far more destructive to health when the workers are penned up in a mill or factory than when the work is performed in the field or by the open door of a cottage."

Now comes Mr. Hayakawa, with some facts that show that there is a limit even to the degradation of the pauper labor of Asia, and showing that Japan is awakening to the fact that country and its conditions ameliorated, the cheap labor of Asia, far from being its strongest point in competing for the markets of the world, will prove the weakest link in its industrial chain. The statistics prepared by the Osaka Sanitary Association from fourteen spinning mills in Japan in April, 1897, show that these concerns employed in all 21.204 persons, and that nearly 5.000 of them are what we should term children, that is, under 15 years of age, while some are actually under 10 years of age. Those statistics show that the average carnings of a man were a little more than 2 conditions some facts and thuse concerns employed in all 21.204 persons, and that nearly 5.000 of them are what we should term children, that is, under 15 years of age, while some are actually under 10 years of age. Those statistics show that the average not more than 8 cents a day, and we are inform

Spinning especially goes on day and night for twelve hours continuously in ill-ventilated workshops."

The above is not the utterance of a wicked advocate of protective tariff, howling about the patter labor of Asia, but is a well-weighed utterance of an ex-official of the department of the Government at Tokio, which has practical charge of all the statistical returns of the empire. I next propose to show how this cheap labor will undermine and practically destroy the boasted progress of this part of the world if the Japanese Government does not realize its danger and do something to elevate it. The same will be true of Chim should that country also arouse itself and undertake to compete with nations where the standard of living and honce the standard of stanmin is higher. Note what Mr. Havagawa says in relation to the diseases of these unfortunate women and children who consume only libecents worth of food a day:

"As to the diseases of the laborers, those of the stomach and infestines are most common in the spinning manufactories. According to the opinion of the employers these diseases are caused by the fact that the country women, who have been accustomed to eating wheat, take too much rice when they tome to the manufactories. But in spinning work goes on day and night, and in the day three meals are given, and in the digesition is apt to be utaset. Moreover those who work at night must sleep in the daytime; their sleep, therefore, cannot be sound, and they get irregular moals during the day. It this not one of the meal change so suddenly that the digesition is apt to be utaset. Moreover those who work at night must sleep in the daytime; their sleep, therefore, cannot be sound, and they get irregular moals during the day. It is not one of the causes of such diseases? I besides these diseases there are also many cases of diseases of the lungs and joints."

Thus it will be seen that by permitting such

Amelia Bingham

The Queen of Beautiful Women and Leading Star, writes:

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with the most satisfactory results."

Johann Hoff: Quelin Bingham.
Berlin
Paris

an atrocious and cruel industrialism as this seems to be in Japan, the result will be a decrease in the physical strength of the laborer and a destruction of the stamina of the people. There is really no advantage whatever either in the employment of such young laborers, and this all civilized countries found out long ago. Yet we hear the same ignorant objections from the greed-driven employer there as we used to hear from the opponents of factory legislation and labor inspection, both in England and in the United States. In Japan they are even contending that an extraordinary panic will take place when the hours of labor are limited by law. As the hours of labor are limited by law. As the hours of labor are simple, namely, twenty-four hours aday, including Sundays; two shifts of twelve hours each. Yet, while this is the cry of the Japanese cotton manufacturer, the latest statisties of the profits of the spinning factories show that they are unusually great. Some factories, we are informed, pay a dividend of 10 per cont., 20 per cent., or even 40 per cent. Mr. Tetsuya Hayakawa mildly makes, in view of these profits, the following suggestion:

"It is believed that only a part of the net profits will be enough for the increased supply of laborers which would be caused by the limitation of the hours of labor. The owners of the manufactories need a little patience in order to get more vigorous laborers.

There is much philosophy in these lines. The Japanese will find that everything they do to improve and elevate their labor will indirectly be beneficial to themselves. This has been the history of factory legislation in England and in this country. Both England and the United States have much to be averaged for the camels. There were only spinifex, acacia, and other dwarf shrubs in the way of the states on the way of the camels.

history of factory legislation in England and in this country. Both England and the United history of factory legislation in England and the United States have much to learn yet in relation to the living wage theory. Poor Japan, however, seems to be at the foot of the ladder. A few years ago she started in with modern machinery, 8 cents a day wages, cost of food per factory hand 3½ cents a day, no limit to hours of work, and freedom to employ even children under 10 years of age. What was she going to do? Overcome all competitors with the cheapness of her goods and become the Great Britain of the Pacific. What has she done? Learned a useful lesson, namely, that a nation that put 3½ cents worth of food a day into the stomach of each of its wage earners, a few cotton clothes on their backs, and no shoes on their feet, not only cannot compets with the strong nations of the world, but is furthermore in danger of exterminating itself. Surely if these facts are true, the cheap labor of Asia is a disadvantage, rather than an advantage.

ROBERT P. PORTER,

QUEER HAPPENINGS. Wind Blows Down a Horse and Breaks His

From the Louisville Courier-Journal "Uncle" Jake Ross, an old colored man who has been peddling coal in the East End for a number of

rears, was a victim of yesterday's storm. Uncle Jake's horse was blown down at Floyd and Lafayette streets by a strong gust of wind, and the poor old animal's neck got under its body and was broken. Uncle Jake's horse was probably never a very valu-able animal in his best days, which had passed long ago, but he was Uncle Jake's mainstay in his busi ness, and had some good points about him that a ha The grief of the old man over the loss of his horse

was pitiful. Largo tears rolled down his furrowe and grimy cheeks, and he refused to be consoled. "Hit would a been better," he said, "if de wind had er killed me along wid my hoss, fer I can't make widout him, and now I will jes' have ter starve ter death."

Prisoner Ties His Guard to a Huggy. From the Columbus (O.) Post.

Not long ago James Morgan, charged with forgery. was arrested at Muncie, Ind., by Deputy Sheriff James of Newcastle. While being brought to Mun-cle Morgan managed to unlock the bandcuffs, and fastened the deputy to his buggy and then disappeared. Morgan made his escape, and the officers over the country have been looking for him ever since.

Religious Awakening Against a Sunday Post

Office. From the Nashville Banner.

As the result of an unusual religious awakening at New Market a movement has been inaugurated to have the Post Office closed on the Sabbath. The effort is meeting with considerable opposition, and A. J. Welch, chief clerk of the railway mail service, has been authorized to take a consus and report to the authorities at Washington as to the condition of af-fairs. A good deal of feeling has been engendered, but it is more than probable that the department will decide to keep the office open during certain hours on Sunday, as was done at Harriman by direction of Postmaster-General Wanamaker, before whom a similar contest was made.

Paid to Talk Funny Stories Into Graphophones. From the Kansas City Journal. W. R. Cannon, general foreman of the bridge de-partment on the Rock Island, with headquarters at Herington, has been engaged by a graphophone com-pany to tell funny stories into their machines. He is said to be the best story teller in Kansas.

> Strange Sights to the Obcopec. From the Swainsboro, Ga., Pine Forest.

The Ohoopee continues to be very low, and you can see many interesting sights therein, such as alligators as long as a saw carriage, turtles so large until their weight sinks the timber when they crawi on it. Also the otters are quite numerous; you can see them on the timber eating fish, etc. Recently one was seen to go under the water and stay quite a time and then return with a trout which was fifteen inches long and weighed eight pounds, besides what the otter had destroyed.

Judge Gober's 60,000 Peach Trees From the Atlanta Constitution.

Judge George Gober of Marietta, Ga., besides being n excellent jurist, has developed into a first-class agriculturist The Judge has in cultivation three peach orchards spon which there are 60,000 trees. One

partly within this city consists of 100 acres. Milled 115 Bears to Seventy-three Years. From the Raleigh, N. C., awas and Observer,

Big Tom Hunter, the famous bear hunter of Yancey county, is in Wilmington, the guest of Col. J. W. Murchison. He is the same man who found the body of Dr. Mitchell. The Star quotes bim as saying that in his life he has killed 115 bears. In one year he killed fifty four bears. He is 73 years old, but only last week walked from his home in Pensacola to Asheville, a distance of twenty-eight miles.

Widower Profited by Young Man's Courtship. From the Middletown (N. Y.), Press.

The store comes from Waiden that a certain young ady, who had been keeping company with a young man of that village for about five years, concluded that it was about time to get married. A widower of the town had been paying her some attention, and perhaps this fact led it is a make the declaration to ber flee year except that she thought it was time to get married. The young man, however, was not yet in position to marry, and he so informed his lady in position to marry, and he so suffermed his lady love, who therespon told her widower admirer that she was ready to marry if he was. The widower accepted and the couple were married a few days ago.

The White and Black Twins.

From the Troy. Tenn., News-Bunner. Means, J. L. Forrester and J. H. Nichola last Monday visited the celebrated negro twins born at Polk last week. The mother is a stout, coal-black negress; the bables are healthy and normal, except that one is black, but not quite so black as the mother, and the other is absolutely white-as white as any white child-with long, straight, coal black bair Hundreds of visitors have gone to see the wonderful white babe. We have not seen the twins, but we have the facts, not only from Nichols and Forgater,

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acacia, and other dwarf shrubs in the way of vegetation. After fourteen days' travelling across this desert the water supply became so far reduced that only a half pint a day was al lowed for each person. At last, when only two gallons of water remained, the party met some natives, one of whom they caught and finally induced to pilot them to a water source. He led them four miles away to a waterhole of a re markable character.

It was, in fact, a limestone cave of consider able extent. At the surface was an opening three feet in diameter, against which rested one end of a stout pole about twenty feet long, the other end resting on the floor of the cave. The natives had placed it there to facilitate their entrance and exit. Down the pole the white men acrambled and found themselves in a chamber of considerable size, from which they entered a passage, with sloping floor, about twenty-five feet in length and so low that they had to make their way on hands and knees. At the other end of the passage they reached a fine brook with plenty of clear, cold water that gave the expedition an ample supply. Mr. Carnegie named this water source "Empress Soak."

Around the cave there was good fodder for the camels, and so they rested there for three days. Then they went on over the desert to the northeast, and when near Mount Worsnop they were happy to run across a lagoon with fresh vater upon which numerous wild ducks and other water fowl were swimming. The lagoon had a circumference of about a mile and the water was from a foot and a half to five feet it depth. The borders showed a fine growth of mulgs, acacia, and bloodwood trees, and there

mulga, acacia, and bloodwood trees, and there was a grass-covered meadow which gave much delight to the camels. Mr. Carnegie named this water source Woodhouse Lagoon, and at this inviting spot they remained for three days.

Then they pushed north again over the fronstone, on which a considerable growth of the mulga tree flourishes. They had an ampie water supply, and so did not suffer during the eight days in which they saw no water. At the end of this time they came to some wells used by the natives, around which grew plenty of waterbush, which was highly relished by the camels. Further north, on the west side of the Alfred and Maria range, they found another small waterhole which has been recently visited by the natives. All these discoveries of water in one of the most frightful deserts of the world are interesting because they were never known before. In the next ten days they never known before. In the next ten days the

in one of the most frightful deserts of the world are interesting because they were never known before. In the next ten days they found some areas that suggested march land, but yielded very little water. Their supply became so short at last that they tried the experiment of digging through the sand, a difficult undertaking, which occupied three days, and they were rewarded at last by only ten galloss of very dirty water after digging to a derith of thirty feet. They had met a number of mative, and for a few hours they kept an old woman in their camp in the hope that she would reveal the source of their water supply. She would not give them a particle of information, and at last they let her go.

The scarcity of water and fodder continued until the expedition had travelled as far north as Sturt Creek. For days they had seen nothing but high sand hills, spinifex, and ironstone. Not until they reached 19° 20° south latitude was there a change for the better. They came at last to a region with a thick growth of scrub where, however, they had the misfortune to lose three of their camels that had caten poiseness plants. Their troubles were not over even when they reached the well-watered and grassy district between Christians Creek and the Margaret River, for here they lost Mr. Charles Stansmore, who accidentally shot himself se he was getting ready to fire at a kangarao. Not long after they reached the Kimberlee goid fields, where they replenished their supplies.

On the return journey they travellea, for the most part, a little east of their northern track to see if they could find a good route with sufficient grass to be used for driving cartle from the Kimberley district southward to the Coolgardle gold fields. They did not succeed in finding such a route, and a part of the region, if not more desolate than that along their northern road, was more difficult to cross, for they were constantly ascending and descending high sand hills. In a distance of ten miles they crossed eighty-six of these hills.

The chief re

tury ago was swallowed up in the desert, and is this day nothing has been heard of its fate.

CUPID'S COURT FOR ELOPERS Little Nook in the City Hall of Washington Where Bunaway Couples Find Shelter.

From the Washington Post. There is a room, or rather a little alco the City Hall which has been dedicated and in it bundreds of marriages capid, and in it bundreds of marriages been selemnized. It has been set apart to

been solemnized. It has been set apart for purpose for a number of years by somme sent of the Court Rouse officials. This adnot surrounded by the most romantic or able surroundings, as it looks out upon ridor and is directly opposite the entraffer and is directly opposite the entraffer and results of Washington have taken Neither is the room romantic in appearait has a threadlare old carpet on the field surrounded on three sides by the musting halls of the City Hall. It has a "penhanging at the rading, which prevents in from crowding the bridal parties. A whooks out upon the grounds surroundia old buildings, and this about complet room. Years ago somebody of a superstitious

Years ago somebody of a superstitions to mind covered an old borseshoe with tunio placed it sgainst one of the window policies one of the marriages which have been tracted there have not proven baddy counted for by the fact that the horse turned spatie down and the good lack is run out of it. Even now the horseshoe is its place, would tarnished, but still said a talisman of good furture to those wimarried within the space over which its preside.

married within the space over which its preside.

No record of the marriages performed in file space has ever been preserved except to like its space has ever been preserved except to like its space has ever been preserved except to like its space is sued at the clerk's office, but it is to say that as many people have been available there as within many of the churches of the This place is a great resort for runaway have office from the Virginias and Maryland. Alto runaways have obtained a heaves and extended the wish to be married at once, the attendant to the little alcove and the nearest minaways sent for. The clerks are anxious to establish sent for. The clerks are anxious to establish a record for the little place, and never over its as opportunity to have a cersmony performed